CULTURAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Cultural Exchange Programme with the following countries was finalized: (1) Afghanistan, (2) Czechoslovakia, (3) German Democratic Republic, (4) Hungary, (5) Iran, (6) Mauritius, (7) Turkey, (8) U.S.S.R. Under the Indo-Afghan Cultural Exchange Programme Dr. S.N.Prasad visited Afghanistan, and in turn 10 trainees from Afghanistan visited this Department for training in Archive Admiministration. Similarly Mr. Laslo Szues, Archivist from Hungary visited India.

COMMITTEE AND CONFERENCE

Dr. S.N.Prasad, Director of Archives, left for Paris to participate in a consultation organised by UNESCO with a group of experts to prepare a report on the possibility of transferring archival documents from the old colonial countries to the newly emerged states. Shri S.A.I. Tirmizi, Deputy Director of Archives, attended the 44th session of the Indian Historical Records Commission and read a Paper 'Festivities of Farrukhsiyar's Marriage with Indra Kunwar'.

Shri M.L.Ahluwalia and Dr. N.H.Kulkarnee, Assistant Directors of Archives attended the ninth meeting of the Punjab History Conference held at Patiala on 26-27 April 1975 and the thirteenth Annual Conference of the Institute of Historical Studies, Calcutta, held at Goa on 7-10 November 1975 respectively.

Shri V.V.Talwar, Scientific Officer, attended a Seminar on Conservation of Cultural Property in India held on 14-15 April 1975 at New Delhi. He read a paper on 'Fumigation Techniques commonly applied for sterilisation of paper and allied material.

Shri Satyapal, Archivist of this Department attended the 36th session of the Indian History Congress held at Aligarh on 29-31 December 1975.

Shri J.C.Srivastava, Librarian of this Department attended the tenth Conference of the Indian Association of Special Libraries and Information Centre at Lucknow.

HINDI UNIT

During the period under review the Hindi Section of the Department attended to different items of work relating to (i) Hindi Teaching Scheme, (ii) half yearly progress report of the scheme, (iii) quarterly progress reports regarding the progressive use of Hindi in the work of National Archives of India and (iv) the official language implementation committee. The Annual Report of the National Archives of India for 1974-75 was translated into Hindi. The translation of the book entitled "Indian Travels of Thevenot and Careri" continued.

INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

The Forty-Fourth Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission was held on 21st and 22nd February 1976 at Bikaner on the invitation of the Government of Rajasthan. Shri Khet Singh Rathore, Minister of Education, Rajasthan, welcomed the members and the guests. The session was inaugurated by Shri Ram Kishore Vyas, Speaker, Rajasthan Vidhan Sabha. Eminent historians and archivists from all over the country attended the Session.

An exhibition of historical documents organised on the occasion was inaugurated by Shri Farooq Hasan, Minister of State for Education, Rajasthan. In all eighteen institutions (including the National Archives of India) participated in the exhibition. It received wide publicity through newspapers and attracted a large number of visitors belonging to different walks of life.